

Glossary

1-in-10 Year Drought A drought of such intensity, that it is expected to have a return frequency of once in ten years. A drought, in which below normal rainfall, has a 90 percent probability of being exceeded over a twelve-month period. A drought event that results in an increase in water demand to a magnitude that would have a 10 percent probability of being exceeded during any given year.

1-in-10 Year Level of Certainty A water supply planning goal to assure at least a 90 percent probability, during any given year that all the needs of reasonable-beneficial water uses will be met while also sustaining water resources and related natural systems during a 1-in-10 year drought event.

Acceler8 Part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) program, Acceler8 accelerates eight restoration projects through SFWMD's issuance of "Certificates of Participation" bond revenue for construction finance. Acceler8 projects include: C-44 (St. Lucie Canal) Reservoir / Stormwater Treatment Area (STA), C-43 (Caloosahatchee River) West Reservoir, Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir - Phase 1 with Bolles & Cross Canals Improvements, Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) Expansion, Water Preserve Areas - Includes Site 1, C-9, C-11, Acme Basin B, WCA-3A/3B, Picayune Strand (Southern Golden Gate Estates) Restoration, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - Phase 1, and C-111 Spreader Canal.

Acre-foot The volume of water that covers one acre to a depth of one foot; 43,560 cubic feet; 1,233.5 cubic meters; 325,872 gallons.

Alternative Water Supply Salt water; brackish surface and groundwater; surface water captured predominately during wet-weather flows; sources made available through the addition of new storage capacity for surface or groundwater, water that has been reclaimed after one or more public supply, municipal, industrial, commercial, or agricultural uses; the downstream augmentation of water bodies with reclaimed water; stormwater; and any other water supply source that is designated as nontraditional for a water supply planning region in the applicable regional water supply plan. (Section 373.019, F.S.).

Agricultural Field Scale Irrigation Requirements Simulation (AFSIRS) A simple water budget model for estimating irrigation demands that estimates demand based on basin specific data.

Agricultural Self-Supplied Water Demand The water used to irrigate crops, to water livestock and for aquaculture (e.g., fish production) that is not supplied by a public water supply utility.

Annual Average Daily Flow The total volume of wastewater flowing into a wastewater facility during any consecutive 365 days, divided by 365 and expressed in units of mgd.

Aquifer A geologic formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated, permeable material to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Stormwater, surface water, or reclaimed water is appropriately treated to potable standards and injected into an aquifer through approved Class V injection wells during wet periods with the intent to recover the water for treatment and reuse in the future during dry periods.

Aquifer System A heterogeneous body of intercalated permeable and less permeable material that acts as a water-yielding hydraulic unit of regional extent.

Area of Influence For groundwater systems the area of influence is defined by the cone of depression, and for surface water systems the area of influence is defined as the extent to which the withdrawal results in a measurable change in surface water levels or flows.

Artesian When groundwater is confined under pressure greater than atmospheric pressure by overlying relatively impermeable strata.

Available Supply The maximum amount of reliable water supply including surface water, groundwater and purchases under secure contracts.

Average Daily Demand A water system's average daily use based on total annual water production (total annual gallons or cubic feet divided by 365).

Average Rainfall Year A year having rainfall with a 50 percent probability of being exceeded over a twelve-month period.

Backpumping The practice of actively pumping water leaving an area back into a surface water body.

Basin (Groundwater) A hydrologic unit containing one large aquifer or several connecting and interconnecting aquifers.

Basin (Surface Water) A tract of land drained by a surface water body or its tributaries.

Basis of Review (BOR) From the District's publication, *Basis of Review for Water Use Permit Applications within the South Florida Water Management District*. Read in conjunction with Chapters 40E-2 and 40E-20, the Basis of Review further specifies the general procedures and information used by District staff for review of water use permit applications with the primary goal of meeting District water resource objectives.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) Agricultural management activities designed to achieve an important goal, such as reducing farm runoff or optimizing water use.

Biscayne Aquifer A portion of the Surficial Aquifer System, which provides most of the fresh water for public water supply and agriculture within Miami-Dade, Broward and southeastern Palm Beach County. It is highly susceptible to contamination due to its high permeability and proximity to land surface in many locations.

Blaney-Criddle A formula to calculate evapotranspiration (ET) based on mean temperature and number of daylight hours. The Water Supply Department allocates water using a version of the Blaney-Criddle that employs months as time increments. The 'Modified Blaney-Criddle' is a variation of Blaney-Criddle, which multiplies the ET from Blaney-Criddle by a coefficient that relates mean air temperature to the growth stage of a crop. Additionally, effective rainfall is calculated using the mean temperature and hours of daylight, the Blaney-Criddle ET, average monthly rainfall and a soil factor. Further calculations consider average rainfall to drought rainfall (1-in-10 year drought). The difference between monthly drought effective rainfall and monthly ET becomes the basis for water allocations.

Brackish Water, Saline Water or Seawater Water containing significant amounts or concentrations of dissolved salts or total dissolved solids (TDS). The concentration is the amount (by weight) of salt in water, expressed in "parts per million" (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L). The terms fresh, brackish, saline and brine are used to describe the quality of the water. (~1 mg/L TDS = 0.5 mg/L of Chlorides.)

Capacity Capacity represents the ability to treat, move or reuse water. Typically capacity is expressed in million gallons per day (MGD).

Captured Stormwater/Surface Water Water captured predominantly during wet weather flow and stored above ground or underground for future beneficial use.

Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study (C&SF Restudy) A five-year study effort that looked at modifying the current C&SF Project to restore the greater Everglades and south Florida ecosystem, while providing for the other water-related needs of the region. The study concluded with the Comprehensive Plan being presented to the Congress on July 1, 1999. The recommendations made within the Restudy, that is, structural and operational modifications to the C&SF Project, are being further refined and will be implemented in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project (C&SF Project) A complete system of canals, storage areas and water control structures spanning the area from Lake Okeechobee to both the east and west coasts and from Orlando south to the Everglades. It was designed and constructed during the 1950s by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to provide flood control and improve navigation and recreation.

Commercial and Industrial Self-Supplied Water Demand Water used by commercial and industrial operations withdrawing a minimum water quantity of 100,000 gallons per day (GPD) from individual, on-site wells.

Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) The framework and guide for the restoration, protection and preservation of the south Florida ecosystem. The CERP also provides for water-related needs of the region, such as water supply and flood protection.

Confining Unit A body of significantly less permeable material than the aquifer, or aquifers, that it stratigraphically separates. The hydraulic conductivity may range from nearly zero to some value significantly lower than that of the adjoining aquifers.

Conservation (see *Water Conservation*)

Consumptive Use Any use of water which reduces the supply from which it is withdrawn or diverted

Consumptive Use Permitting (CUP) The issuance of permits by the SFWMD, under authority of Chapter 40E-2, F.A.C., allowing withdrawal of water for consumptive use.

Control Structure A man-made structure designed to regulate the level/flow of water in a canal or water body (e.g., weirs, dams).

Demand The quantity of water needed to be withdrawn to fulfill a requirement.

Demand Management Reducing the demand for water through activities that alter water use practices, improve efficiency in water use, reduce losses of water, reduce waste of water, alter land management practices and/or alter land uses.

Desalination A process that treats saline water to remove or reduce chlorides and dissolved solids, resulting in the production of fresh water.

Discharge The rate of water movement past a reference point, measured as volume per unit time (usually expressed as cubic feet or cubic meters per second).

Disinfection The process of inactivating microorganisms that cause disease. All potable water requires disinfection as part of the treatment process prior to distribution. Disinfection methods include chlorination, ultraviolet (UV) radiation and ozonation.

Disposal Effluent disposal involves the wasteful practice of releasing treated effluent back to the environment using ocean outfalls, surface water discharges and deep injection wells.

Domestic Self-Supplied (DSS) Water Demand The water used by households whose primary source of water is water treatment facilities and/or private wells with pumpages of less than 100,000 gallons per day (GPD).

Domestic Use Use of water for household purposes of drinking, bathing, cooking or sanitation.

Domestic Wastewater Wastewater derived principally from dwellings, business buildings, institutions and the like; sanitary wastewater; sewage.

Drainage District A locally constituted drainage, water management or water control district that is created by special act of the legislature and authorized under Ch. 298 F.S., to construct, complete, operate, maintain, repair and replace any and all works necessary to implement an adopted water control plan.

Drawdown The vertical distance between the static water level and the surface of the cone of depression.

Drought A long period of abnormally low rainfall, especially one that adversely affects growing or living conditions.

Ecosystem Biological communities together with their environment, functioning as a unit.

Effluent Water that is not reused after flowing out of any plant or other works used for the purpose of treating, stabilizing, or holding wastes. Effluent is “disposed” of.

Electrodialysis Dialysis that is conducted with the aid of an electromotive force applied to electrodes adjacent to both sides of the membrane.

Elevation The height in feet above mean sea level according to North American Vertical Datum (NAVD). May also be expressed in feet above mean sea level (MSL) as reference datum.

Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) A permit issued by the SFWMD under authority of Chapter 40E-4 F.A.C. to ensure that land development projects do not cause adverse environmental, water quality or water quantity impacts.

Estuary The part of the wide lower course of a river where its current is met by ocean tides or an arm of the sea at the lower end of a river where fresh and salt water meet.

Evapotranspiration (ET) The total loss of water to the atmosphere by evaporation from land and water surfaces and by transpiration from plants.

Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) An area of histosols (muck) extending south from Lake Okeechobee to the northern levee of WCA-3A, from its eastern boundary at the L-8 Canal to the western boundary along the L-1, L-2 and L-3 levees. The EAA incorporates almost 3,000 square kilometers (1,158 square miles) of highly productive agricultural land.

Everglades Protection Area This area is comprised of the Water Conservation Areas and Everglades National Park.

Existing Legal Use of Water A water use that is authorized under a District water use permit or is existing and exempt from permit requirements.

Fallow Land left unseeded during a growing season. The act of plowing land and leaving it unseeded. The condition or period of being unseeded.

Fiscal Year (FY) The South Florida Water Management District's fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 the following year.

Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) The Florida Administrative Code is the official compilation of the administrative rules and regulations of state agencies.

Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services (FDACS) FDACS communicates the needs of the agricultural industry to the Florida Legislature, the FDEP and the water management districts, and ensures participation of agriculture in the development and implementation of water policy decisions. FDACS also oversees Florida's soil and water conservation districts, which coordinate closely with the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) The SFWMD operates under the general supervisory authority of the FDEP, which includes budgetary oversight.

Florida Statutes (F.S.) The Florida Statutes are a permanent collection of state laws organized by subject area into a code made up of titles, chapters, parts and sections. The Florida Statutes are updated annually by laws that create, amend or repeal statutory material.

Florida Water Plan State-level water resource plan developed by the FDEP under Section 373.036 F.S.

Floridan Aquifer System (FAS) A highly-used aquifer system composed of the Upper Floridan and Lower Floridan Aquifers. It is the principal source of water supply north of Lake Okeechobee and the upper Floridan Aquifer is used for drinking water supply in parts of Martin and St. Lucie counties. From Jupiter to south Miami, water from the Floridan Aquifer System is mineralized (total dissolved solids are greater than 1,000 mg/L) along coastal areas and in southern Florida.

Flow The actual amount of water flowing by a particular point over some specified time. In the context of water supply, flow represents the amount of water being treated, moved or reused. Flow is frequently expressed in millions of gallons per day (MGD).

Fresh Water Water with less than 1,000 mg/L of TDS, but drinking water, by EPA standards, must have less than 500 mg/L of TDS. (~1 mg/L TDS = 0.5 mg/L of Chlorides.)

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) The abstract representation of natural (or cultural) features of a landscape into a digital database, geographic information system.

Governing Board Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District.

Groundwater Water beneath the surface of the ground, whether or not flowing through known and definite channels. Specifically, that part of the subsurface water in the saturated zone, where the water is under pressure greater than the atmosphere.

Harm As defined in Rule 40E-8, F.A.C., the temporary loss of water resource functions that results from a change in surface or groundwater hydrology and takes a period of one to two years of average rainfall conditions to recover.

Hydrology The scientific study of the properties, distribution and effects of water on the earth's surface, in the soil and underlying rocks and in the atmosphere.

Hydroperiod The frequency and duration of inundation or saturation of an ecosystem. In the context of characterizing wetlands, the term hydroperiod describes that length of time during the year that the substrate is either saturated or covered with water.

Infiltration The movement of water through the soil surface into the soil under the forces of gravity and capillarity.

Intermediate Aquifer System (IAS) This aquifer system consists of five zones of alternating confining and producing units. The producing zones include the Sandstone and mid-Hawthorn aquifers.

Intrusion (see Saline Water of Saltwater Intrusion)

Irrigation The application of water to crops and other plants by artificial means.

Irrigation Efficiency The average percent of total water pumped or delivered for use that is delivered to the root zone of a plant.

Karst A topography formed over limestone, dolomite or gypsum and characterized by sinkholes, caves and underground drainage.

Lake Okeechobee Largest freshwater lake in Florida. Located in central Florida, the lake measures 730 square miles and is the second largest freshwater lake wholly within the United States.

Landscape Irrigation The outside watering of shrubbery, trees, lawns, grass, ground covers, vines, gardens and other such flora, not intended for resale, which are planted and are situated in such diverse locations as residential and recreation areas, cemeteries, public, commercial and industrial establishments, and public medians and rights of way.

Levee An embankment to prevent flooding or a continuous dike or ridge for confining the irrigation areas of land to be flooded.

Level of Certainty A water supply planning goal to assure at least a 90 percent probability, during any given year that all the needs of reasonable-beneficial water uses will be met while also sustaining water resources and related natural systems during a 1-in-10 year drought event.

Load Concentration times flow.

Maximum Daily Allocation The maximum quantity permitted to be withdrawn in any single 24 hour period.

Maximum Monthly Allocation The maximum quantity of water assigned to the permit to be withdrawn during the month in the growing season when the largest supplemental crop requirement is needed by the specific crop for which the allocation is permitted.

Microfiltration A membrane separation process in which particles greater than about 20 nanometers in diameter are screened out of a liquid in which they are suspended.

Microirrigation The application of small quantities of water on or below the soil surface as drops or tiny streams of spray through emitters or applicators placed along a water delivery line. Microirrigation includes a number of methods or concepts such as bubbler, drip, trickle, mist or microspray and subsurface irrigation.

Minimum Flow and Level (MFL) The point at which further withdrawals would cause significant harm to the water resources.

Mobile Irrigation Laboratory (MIL) A vehicle furnished with irrigation evaluation equipment, which is used to carry out on-site evaluations of irrigation systems and to provide recommendations on improving irrigation efficiency.

MODFLOW A fine-scale model code created by the U.S. Geological Survey. The District uses it for subregional and groundwater modeling.

Monthly Average Daily Flow The total volume of wastewater flowing into a wastewater facility during a calendar month, divided by the number of days in that month and expressed in units of mgd.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) An agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides technical assistance for soil and water conservation, natural resource surveys and community resource protection. Formerly the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

Net Water Demand The water demands of the end user, after accounting for treatment and process losses and inefficiencies (e.g. irrigation inefficiency). When discussing public water supply, the term “finished water demand” is commonly used.

North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) The official civilian vertical control datum (reference for elevation data) for surveying and mapping activities in the United States.

Nutrients Organic or inorganic compounds essential for the survival of an organism. In aquatic environments, nitrogen and phosphorus are important nutrients that affect the growth rate of plants.

Outflow The act or process of flowing out of.

Per Capita Use Total use divided by the total population served.

Performance Measure Performance measures quantify how well or how poorly an alternative meets a specific objective. Good performance measures are quantifiable, have a specific target, indicate when a target has been reached, and measure the degree to which the goal has been met.

Permeability Defines the ability of a substrate to transmit fluid.

Phosphorus (P) An element that is essential for life. In freshwater aquatic environments, phosphorus is often in short supply; increased levels can promote the growth of algae and other plants.

Potable Water Water that is safe for human consumption.

Potentiometric Head The level to which water will rise when a well is pierced in a confined aquifer.

Potentiometric Surface A surface, which represents the hydraulic head in an aquifer and is defined by the level to which water will rise above a datum plane in wells that penetrate the aquifer.

Public Water Supply (PWS) Water that is withdrawn, treated, transmitted and distributed as potable or reclaimed water.

Public Water Supply (PWS) Demand All potable (drinking quality) water supplied by water treatment facilities with projected average pumpages greater than 100,000 gallons per day to all types of customers, not just residential.

Ratoon A shoot sprouting from a plant base, as in the banana, pineapple, or sugar cane.
A Ratoon Crop A crop cultivated from the shoots of a perennial plant.

Raw Water Demand The amount of water that must be withdrawn from the groundwater or surface water system to meet a particular need. Withdrawal demands are nearly always higher than User/Customer Demand because of inherent treatment and process losses, and inefficiencies associated with delivering water from the source to the end user.

Reasonable-Beneficial Use Use of water in such quantity as is necessary for economic and efficient utilization for a purpose, which is both reasonable and consistent with the public interest.

Reclaimed Water Water that has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused after flowing out of a domestic wastewater treatment facility (Chapter 62-610, F.A.C.).

Recreational Self-Supplied Water Demand The water used for landscape and golf course irrigation. The landscape subcategory includes water used for parks, cemeteries and other irrigation applications greater than 100,000 gallons per day. The golf course subcategory includes those operations not supplied by a public water supply or regional reuse facility.

Regional Irrigation Distribution System (RIDS) An interconnection pipeline system to deliver irrigation water, which considers reuse and alternative water supplies, such as supplemental surface water.

Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) Detailed water supply plan developed by the District under Section 373.0361, F.S., providing an evaluation of available water supply and projected demands, at the regional scale. The planning process projects future demand for 20 years and recommends projects to meet identified needs.

Reservations of Water (see *Water Reservations*)

Reservoir A man-made or natural water body used for water storage.

Restudy Shortened name for C&SF Restudy.

Retention The prevention of stormwater runoff from direct discharge into receiving waters; included as examples are systems which discharge through percolation, exfiltration, filtered bleed-down and evaporation processes.

Retrofit The replacement of existing equipment with equipment of higher efficiency.

Retrofitting The replacement of existing water fixtures, appliances and devices with more efficient fixtures, appliances and devices for the purpose of conservation.

Reuse The deliberate application of reclaimed water for a beneficial purpose. Criteria used to classify projects as “reuse” or “effluent disposal” are contained in Rule 62-610.810, F.A.C. The term “reuse” is synonymous with “water reuse.”

Reverse Osmosis (RO) A membrane process for desalting water using applied pressure to drive the feedwater (source water) through a semipermeable membrane.

Runoff That component of rainfall which is not absorbed by soil, intercepted and stored by surface water bodies, evaporated to the atmosphere, transpired and stored by plants, or infiltrated to groundwater, but which flows to a watercourse as surface water flow.

Saline Water Any water that contains more than 1,000 mg/L of TDS. This may be brackish water (1000 to 15,000 mg/L of TDS), seawater (15,000 to 40,000 mg/L of TDS), or brine (more than 40,000 mg/L of TDS). It is common in the literature to define coastal water that is very brackish simply as saline water. (~1 mg/L TDS = 0.5 mg/L of Chlorides.)

Saline Water or Saltwater Interface The hypothetical surface of chloride concentration between fresh water and seawater where the chloride concentration is 250 mg/L at each point on the surface.

Saline Water or Saltwater Intrusion The invasion of a body of fresh water by a body of salt water, due to its greater density. It can occur either in surface water or groundwater bodies. The term is applied to the flooding of freshwater marshes by seawater, the upward migration of seawater into rivers and navigation channels, and the movement of seawater into freshwater aquifers along coastal regions.

Salinity Of or relating to chemical salts (usually measured in parts per thousand, or ppt).

Seawater, Saline Water or Brackish Water contains significant amounts or concentrations of dissolved salts or total dissolved solids (TDS). The concentration is the amount (by weight) of salts in water, expressed in "parts per million" (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L). The terms fresh, brackish, saline, and brine are used to describe the quality of the water. (~1 mg/L TDS = 0.5 mg/L of Chlorides.)

Self-Supplied The water used to satisfy a water need, not supplied by a public water supply utility.

Semi-Confined Aquifer A completely saturated aquifer that is bounded above by a semi-pervious layer, which has a low, though measurable permeability, and below by a layer that is either impervious or semi-pervious.

Semi-confining Layers Layers with little or no horizontal flow, restricting the vertical flow of water from one aquifer to another. The rate of vertical flow is dependent on the head differential between the aquifers, as well as the vertical permeability of the sediments in the semi-confining layer.

Serious Harm As defined in Rule 40E-8, F.A.C., the long-term loss of water resource functions resulting from a change in surface or groundwater hydrology.

Service Area The geographical region in which a water supplier has the ability and the legal right to distribute water for use.

Significant Harm As defined in Rule 40E-8, F.A.C., the temporary loss of water resource functions, which result from a change in surface or groundwater hydrology, that takes more than two years to recover, but which is considered less severe than serious harm. The specific water resource functions addressed by a MFL and the duration of the recovery period associated with significant harm are defined for each priority water body based on the MFL technical support document.

Slough A channel in which water moves sluggishly, or a place of deep muck, mud or mire. Sloughs are wetland habitats that serve as channels for water draining off surrounding uplands and/or wetlands.

Stage The height of a water surface above an established reference point (datum or elevation).

Storm Water Water that does not infiltrate, but accumulates on land as a result of storm runoff, snowmelt runoff, irrigation runoff or drainage from areas such as roads and roofs.

Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) A system of constructed water quality treatment wetlands that use natural biological processes to reduce levels of nutrients and pollutants from surface water runoff.

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Wetland plants that exist completely below the water surface.

Subregional Groundwater Model A computer model that is used to simulate impacts on a smaller scale than the SFWMM, such as effects within public water supply service areas and impacts of individual wellfields.

Supplemental Irrigation Requirement (SIR) The volume of water, usually expressed in acre-inches, representing the difference between the estimated evapotranspiration of a given crop and the effective rainfall available in a specific geographic area over some prescribed time period and climatic event.

Supply-side Management The conservation of water in Lake Okeechobee to ensure that water demands are met while reducing the risk of serious or significant harm to natural systems.

Surface Water Water above the soil or substrate surface, whether contained in bounds created naturally or artificially or diffused. Water from natural springs is classified as surface water when it exits from the spring onto the earth's surface.

Surficial Aquifer System (SAS) Often the principal source of water for urban uses within certain areas of south Florida. This aquifer is unconfined, consisting of varying amounts of limestone and sediments that extend from the land surface to the top of an intermediate confining unit.

Swamp A frequently or continuously inundated forested wetland.

Thermoelectric Self-Supplied Water Demand The difference in the amount of water withdrawn by electric power generating facilities for cooling purposes and the water returned to the hydrologic system near the point of withdrawal.

Three-month Average Daily Flow The total volume of wastewater flowing into a wastewater facility during a period of three consecutive months, divided by the number of days in this three-month period and expressed in units of mgd. The three-month average daily flow also can be calculated by adding the three monthly average daily flows observed during this three-month period and dividing by three. The three-month average daily flow is a rolling average that is to be assessed for each month of the year.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) The maximum allowed level of pollutant loading for a water body, while still protecting its uses and maintaining compliance with water quality standards, as defined in the *Clean Water Act*.

Transmissivity A term used to indicate the rate at which water can be transmitted through a unit width of aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient. It is a function of the permeability and thickness of the aquifer, and is used to judge its production potential.

Treatment Facility Any plant or other works used for the purpose of treating, stabilizing, or holding wastewater.

Tributary A stream that flows into a larger stream or other body of water.

Upconing Process by which saline water underlying fresh water in an aquifer rises upward into the freshwater zone as a result of pumping water from the freshwater zone.

User/Customer Demand (see *Net Demand*)

Utility Any legal entity responsible for supplying potable water for a defined service area.

Wastewater The combination of liquid and water-carried pollutants from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with any groundwater, surface runoff or leachate that may be present.

Water Conservation Reducing the demand for water through activities that alter water use practices, e.g., improving efficiency in water use, and reducing losses of water, waste of water and water use.

Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) Part of the original Everglades ecosystem that is now diked and hydrologically controlled for flood control and water supply purposes. These are located in the western portions of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, and preserve a total of 1,337 square miles, or about 50 percent of the original Everglades.

Water Preserve Areas (WPA) Multipurpose water-holding areas located along the western border of southeast Florida's urbanized corridor.

Water Reservations State law on water reservations, in Section 373.223(4), F.S., defines water reservations as follows: "The governing board or the department, by regulation, may reserve from use by permit applicants, water in such locations and quantities, and for such seasons of the year, as in its judgment may be required for the protection of fish and wildlife or the public health and safety. Such reservations shall be subject to periodic review and revision in the light of changed conditions. However, all presently existing legal uses of water shall be protected so long as such use is not contrary to the public interest."

Water Resource Development The formulation and implementation of regional water resource management strategies, including the collection and evaluation of surface water and groundwater data; structural and nonstructural programs to protect and manage the water resources; the development of regional water resource implementation programs; the construction, operation and maintenance of major public works facilities to provide for flood control, surface and underground water storage and groundwater recharge augmentation; and related technical assistance to local governments and to government-owned and privately-owned water utilities. (Section 373.019, F.S.)

Water Reuse (see *Reuse*)

Watershed A region or area bounded peripherally by a water parting and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.

Water Shortage Declaration If there is a possibility that insufficient water will be available within a source class to meet the estimated present and anticipated user demands from that source, or to protect the water resource from serious harm, the governing board may declare a water shortage for the affected source class. (Rule 40E- 21.231, F.A.C.) Estimates of the percent reduction in demand required to match available supply is required and identifies which phase of drought restriction is implemented. A gradual progression in severity of restriction is implemented through increasing phases. Once declared, the District is required to notify permitted users by mail of the restrictions and to publish restrictions in area newspapers.

Water Supply Development The planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of public or private facilities for water collection, production, treatment, transmission or distribution for sale, resale or end use. (Section 373.019(24), F.S.)

Water Supply Plan (see *Regional Water Supply Plan*).

Water Table The surface of a body of unconfined groundwater at which the pressure is equal to that of the atmosphere; defined by the level where water within an unconfined aquifer stands in a well.

Water Use Any use of water, which reduces the supply from which it is withdrawn or diverted.

Water Well Any excavation that is drilled, cored, bored, washed, driven, dug, jetted, or otherwise constructed when the intended use of such excavation is for the location, acquisition, development, or artificial recharge of groundwater. This term does not include any well for the purpose of obtaining or prospecting for oil, natural gas, minerals, or products of mining or quarrying; for inserting media to dispose of oil brines or to repressure oil-bearing or natural gas-bearing formation; for storing petroleum, natural gas, or other products; or for temporary dewatering of subsurface formations for mining, quarrying or construction purposes. (373.303(7), F.S.)

Wetland An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater with vegetation adapted for life under those soil conditions (e.g., swamps, bogs and marshes).

Wetland Drawdown Study Research effort by the South Florida Water Management District to provide a scientific basis for developing wetland protection criteria for water use permitting.

Withdrawal Demand (see *Raw Water Demand*)

Xeriscape™ Landscaping that involves seven principles: proper planning and design; soil analysis and improvement; practical turf areas; appropriate plant selection; efficient irrigation; mulching; and appropriate maintenance.

